

plate (5) assigned to them, in each instance, and the wringer slide (9) is guided on the mop handle (1) so that it cannot rotate.

12. (Amended) The floor mop according to Claim 11, wherein the two carrier plates (5) are moved into an extended position by a spring device (18).

13. (Amended) The floor mop according to Claim 11, wherein the guide surface (17) of each carrier plate (5) rises to an elevation (17b) that projects upwards from the back of the carrier plate (5), in a direction towards a free plate end (5a).

15. (Amended) The floor mop according to Claim 11, wherein an end (11a) of each wringer arm (11) carries a rotating roller element (12, 15, 20).

18. (Amended) A floor mop comprising: two carrier plates connected to a common carrier center piece in jointed manner and which carry an absorbent mop covering, a mop handle affixed on the carrier center piece, and a wringer slide which is movable along the mop handle, the wringer slide having two rigid wringer arms, each of which is movably engagable with a back of one of the two carrier plates, wherein the mop handle (1) is connected with the carrier center piece (3) by way of a cardan joint (2), and ends (11a) of the wringer arms (11) can each be brought into engagement with a guide surface (17) on the back of the carrier plate (5) assigned to them, in each instance, and the wringer slide (9) is guided on the mop handle (1) so that it cannot rotate, wherein the end (11a) of each wringer arm (11) carries a rotating roller element (12, 15, 20), and wherein the roller element is a wheel (20) provided with recesses (19) on its circumference, which engages with at least one projection (21, 22) on the back of the carrier plate (5).

20. (Amended) A floor mop comprising: two carrier plates connected to a common carrier center piece in jointed manner and

which carry an absorbent mop covering, a mop handle affixed on the carrier center piece, and a wringer slide which is movable along the mop handle, the wringer slide having two rigid wringer arms, each of which is movably engagable with a back of one of the two carrier plates, wherein the mop handle (1) is connected with the carrier center piece (3) by way of a cardan joint (2), and ends (11a) of the wringer arms (11) can each be brought into engagement with a guide surface (17) on the back of the carrier plate (5) assigned to them, in each instance, and the wringer slide (9) is guided on the mop handle (1) so that it cannot rotate, wherein the end (11a) of each wringer arm (11) carries a rotating roller element (12, 15, 20), and wherein the guide surface (17) has a flat longitudinal groove (17a) with a concave cross-section.

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21. (Amended) A floor mop comprising: two carrier plates connected to a common carrier center piece in jointed manner and which carry an absorbent mop covering, a mop handle affixed on the carrier center piece, and a wringer slide which is movable along the mop handle, the wringer slide having two rigid wringer arms, each of which is movably engagable with a back of one of the two carrier plates, wherein the mop handle (1) is connected with the carrier center piece (3) by way of a cardan joint (2), and ends (11a) of the wringer arms (11) can each be brought into engagement with a guide surface (17) on the back of the carrier plate (5) assigned to them, in each instance, and the wringer slide (9) is guided on the mop handle (1) so that it cannot rotate, wherein the end (11a) of each wringer arm (11) has a pressure surface (16) with a convex curvature, and wherein the guide surface (17) has a flat longitudinal groove (17a) with a concave cross-section.

Please add the following new claims:

22. (New) A floor mop comprising:
a common carrier center piece;
two carrier plates connected to the carrier center piece;
a mop covering supported by the carrier plates;
a mop handle;
a joint arrangement configured to connect the mop handle to the carrier center piece; and
a wringer slide guideably moveable along the mop handle, the wringer slide having two wringer arms movably engagable with respective backs of the carrier plates; wherein the joint arrangement is configured to permit the carrier center piece to pivot to all sides and is configured to prevent the carrier center piece from rotating.
23. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 22, wherein the joint arrangement includes a cardan joint.
24. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 22, further comprising a spring device configured to position the carrier plates into an extended position.
25. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 22, wherein the carrier plates include respective free plate ends and respective guide surfaces projecting from the backs of the carrier plates in directions toward the respective free plate ends.
26. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 22, wherein ends of the wringer arms carry respective rotating roller elements.
27. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 26, wherein the roller elements include respective rollers configured to rotate.
28. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 26, wherein the roller elements include respective balls configured to rotate in respective recesses of the wringer arms.

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29. (New) The floor mop according to Claim 26, wherein each of the roller elements includes a wheel having a circumference and a plurality of recesses arranged on the circumference to engage with at least one projection on the back of a respective one of the carrier plates.

30. (New) A floor mop comprising:

a common carrier center piece;

two carrier plates connected to the carrier center piece;

a mop covering supported by the carrier plates;

a mop handle;

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a wringer slide guideably moveable along the mop handle, the wringer slide having two wringer arms movably engagable with respective backs of the carrier plates; and

means for connecting the mop handle to the carrier center piece to permit the carrier center piece to pivot to all sides and to prevent the carrier center piece from rotating.

REMARKS

With the addition of claim 22-30 herein, claims 11-30 are currently pending in the present application. Initially, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 18, 20, and 21 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the indefinite rejections herein and to include all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As such, claims 18, 20, and 21 were rewritten in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims have adequate support throughout the Specification and put claims 18, 20, and 21 in allowable condition.

Otherwise, Applicant respectfully traverses all claim rejections for the reasons that follow:

I. REJECTIONS OF CLAIM 11-21 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 11-21 were rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly failing to